Executive Proclamation

State of South Dakota
Office of the Governor

Whereas, Nearly 2.9 million registered nurses in the United States comprise our nation's largest health care profession; and,

Whereas, The depth and breadth of the registered nursing profession meets the different and emerging health care needs of the American population in a wide range of settings; and,

Whereas, The American Nurses Association and the South Dakota Nurses Association, as the voice for the registered nurses of this country, are working to chart a new course for a healthy nation that relies on increasing delivery of primary and preventative health care; and,

Whereas, A renewed emphasis on primary and preventive health care will require the better utilization of all our nation's registered nursing resources; and,

Whereas, Professional nursing has been demonstrated to be an indispensable component in the safety and quality of care of hospitalized patients; and,

Whereas, The demand for registered nursing services will be greater than ever because of the aging of the American population, the continuing expansion of life-sustaining technology, and the explosive growth of home health care services; and,

Whereas, More qualified registered nurses will be needed in the future to meet the increasingly complex needs of health care consumers in our communities; and,

Whereas, The cost-effective, safe, and quality health care services provided by registered nurses will be an ever more important component of the U.S. health care delivery system in the future; and,

Whereas, The American Nurses Association and the South Dakota Nurses Association have declared the week of May 6-12, 2009, as National Nurses Week with this year's theme, "Nurses: Building a Healthy America":

Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim May 6-12, 2009, as

NURSES WEEK

in South Dakota, and I call upon all citizens to join me in honoring and recognizing registered nurses this week and throughout the year.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Fourteenth Day of April in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Nine.

M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest:

Chris Nelson, Secretary of State